The Brethren Evangelist.

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A Rest for the Soul.

I am weary, O Lord, of the strife,
Of the sorrow and sadness of life;
When the gates of pure gold have been passed,
Will the grief and displeasure still last?
When I walk through the beautiful streets,
That still echo the tread of their feet;
Will the tears that so oft fill my eye
At the gaze of the angels be dry?
When I sing with the glorified throng
In melodious strains, that new song;
Will my voice that now trembles with pain,
Be more strong in that sweeter refrain?
Will my heart that is longing for rest,
From the cares that now burden my breast,
Find in thee a sweet comfort and peace,
When my soul from this earth has release?
I will doubt thee no longer, O God,
But will bend 'neath thy chastening rod;
When I've passed through the gates of pure gold
I will know that my grief has been told.

M. M. STERLING.

Oct. 17, 1887.

Dedication of Maple Grove Church, Eaton, Ind.

Joy to the world; peace and good will toward men! Yesterday was a happy time for the brethren of Maple Grove. Some two years ago, the war cry of Elder ruling was heard in the land and some were being sacrificed for the gratification of others.

A communication reached me at North Manchester, Ind., by way of H. G. Ullery, of Covingington, Ohio, to go to the rescue if possible. We responded as soon as convenient, held a meeting some two weeks, and twenty-one were willing to trust the Bible doctrine. Bro. J. A. Ridenour followed soon after and gathered in some more. In the course of a year we returned and found a few waiting the good news of salvation. They have been pulling against the stream amid storms of opposition, with no place to hold service only in the school house, save when the Christians would open their house for us, which was every time I visited them. May the Lord bless the Christian church for their kindness.

Our brethren resolved last spring to commence the erection of a house of worship, which they did, and through the untiring energy of a faithful few, it was completed and yesterday was formally dedicated to the service of God. Although the day was very inclement, yet before the hour of service it was filled to its utmost capacity. After introductory exercises and a statement of existing circumstances, we found that their was yet a debt of $455.00 yet unprovided for. An effort was made and liberally responded to. When footed up it was found that we had raised $332.00; the balance of which the church assumed.

Then came the dedicatory service, after which we all sang "Rejoice and be glad, for the Redeemer has come." While we were singing the sexton rang the bell, and it was joy indeed.

The structure is substantially built of brick and stone with spire and bell and all complete, with a marble frontispiece bearing this inscription—

BRETHREN CHURCH, 1887.

It is an ornament to this part of the country. We extend our sincere thanks to Bro. Pittenger and Bro. Chas. Spencer, of the Methodist church, and Bro. N. Spencer, of the Christian church, for the assistance in this service. May the Lord bless them for their kindness.

It was our happy privilege to meet our dear brother Teeter, Elder of the Oakville congregation. He also rendered assistance, and Bro. G. W. Rench, pastor in charge, did his part.

We formed many new acquaintances of brethren and sisters from the Oakville church. We extend our thanks to them for their hearty invitation to come to their place at some future time. We met Bro. Eli Hardman, of Cambridge City, Ind. He also invites us to stop at their place, and Bro. White, of New Cumberland, Ind., solicits our service. The harvest is great and the laborers are few.

Bro. and sister Helmick, and sister Homel, of Pleasant Hill, O., was on the scene and rendered assistance in the meetings. We feel like praising the Lord for his goodness and mercy toward the children of men. We are happy here and shall be there; and are happy on the journey.

On Saturday night, just when we had closed our sermon, and were having a Pentecostal shower, our joy was increased by the enterance of Bro. Israel Penrod, and our dear son Orva, from North Manchester. They remained with us till Monday morning, then left for home. Oh how we would like to have accompanied them.

"But duty makes us understand that we must take the parting hand."

We remain a few days with the brethren here, then go home preparatory to our winter's work. May the grace of God abide with you all.

WM. W. SUMMERS.

Oct. 23rd.

Church Organization and Love Feast.

On Oct. 22rd, a love feast was held by the brethren at Holmesville, Neb., which had been preceded by a week's meeting, at which the writer assisted.

Baptism was administered by Bro. Nicholson in the evening before the feast, after which several members were admitted by relation, and the church proceeded to effect its organization. Bro. A. M. T. Miller, a young man who had been elected to the ministry in the German Baptist church, being esteemed worthy, having the scriptural qualifications, was ordained to the office of Bishop. Bro. Urias Miller, and Bro. John Berkley are the recognized deacons, and the following brethren were elected to office as follows:

Clerk, Warren Irvin; Treasurer, Urias Miller; Auditors, Samuel Irvin, Jr., and Albert Miller.

The election of Trustees was deferred until a future meeting.

The meetings were held in the school house in town, but the love feast was held in a vacant store room. The counters were moved to one end of the building, and served as tables from which the supper was eaten. It was an admirable place in which to hold a love feast. The Methodists would have given us their church for the love feast, but the store room was preferred.

On Sunday morning we had meeting in the Methodist church to a well filled house. In the afternoon Bro. Lewis Kelser, who had united with the Brethren the evening before, led a song service in the Methodist church, which was opened with prayer by Elder Stump. Elder Nicholson addressed the congregation in a brief pathetic manner, very appropriate to the occasion. During this service the audience was moved to tears, so effecting in its character was this service of song led by our young brother, who has a remarkable talent for music and is willing to use his gift to the honor and glory of God.

The church here, with Elder Nicholson as pastor, is in good working order, and has a prospect for a bright future before it. Its members are intelligent and full of zeal for the good cause.

This meeting and love feast demonstrated that they have the sympathies and good wishes of the better class of the community in their favor, and in behalf of their cause. The Lord has begun a good work here, and he will most assuredly complete it, if the brethren will continue to do their part.

The old German Baptists have an organization in the neighborhood consisting of about twenty members. Bro. Nicholson and the writer visited Elder Musselman, their minister, and found him a man of good ability, full of zeal and piety. We were very hospitably entertained and learned that these brethren still retained their principles of justice, brotherly kindness and charity, for which they have always been noted.

The German Baptists, or Conservative Dunkards also have an organization at this place maintaining their *distinguishing* features with their *usual* success.

In this town is located the beautiful home of Bro. Lewis Keim. The house was vacant during the meetings. Bro. Lewis had not yet returned from performing his last sad duty to his wife in her old Pennsylvania home, and sister Barbara has gone to the beautiful home beyond. We thought of the pleasure it would have been to visit them in their earthly home, but of the greater joy we may have in the meeting in the home not made with hands.

E. L. YODER.

Brighton, Ind.

In looking over the pages of the EVANGELIST it cheers our souls to read of so many who are accepting of the gospel alone platform as their rule of faith and practice, and how cheering it is to read of churches being organized and sinners being converted. Especially did it meet our mind where Bro. Holsinger spoke of the late Buchanan Brethren church in Mich., who have started out on the Gospel platform, and are practicing what they profess: "Do unto others as you would have them do to you." The majority have gone with the brethren at that place and they hold the church property. They have taken a step in the right way by resolving to pay the German Baptist brethren their share in the house. If the German Baptists would do likewise, there would be no quarreling about church property. May God help us in the way of justice and right.

We were organized by Bro. Wm. Summers the 11th of last April, who, by request, came and preached to us the Word with power; four were baptized and a church of 17 was organized. Bro. Summers was chosen to preside over our little flock until further arrangements could be make. Since then, Bro. Binkley, of Huntington, Ind., preached for us, and as we have concluded to have preaching every eight weeks, we expect Bro. Binkley with us over next Lord's day. We are left without a minister residing here. By the earnest request of Bro. Summers, that we should not neglect the assembling of ourselves together, we met and resolved to have social or prayer meeting every two weeks, and we truly believe those meetings result in much good when properly carried on, although the majority of the members have been raised and grown up under the customs and teaching of the German Baptist brethren, and have never been taught to encourage a prayer meeting. Hence, such are somewhat backward in the good work. Prejudices are gradually dying out and we trust there is a bright day in the near future for the church at this place. The majority of the members are young and we need the encouragement of our surrounding brethren. Financially we are poor, but still feel like helping those who labor for us spiritually. As yet we have failed in getting the use of the house we helped to build, but as our United Brethren and Methodist friends have been so kind to us, we yet have roofs under which we can hear the gospel preached. Ministers traveling on the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, please remember us; Sturgis, Mich., would be our R. R. Station; also on the B. & O. by changing cars at Avilla enroute for Lima, Ind. Any ministers wishing to stop with us will please let us know in due time, and we will meet them at either place.

M. E. HORNER.

Brighton, La Grange Co., Ind.

Things in General, Some Things in Particular.

A Temperance Man.—Bro. Gerald gave us a lecture a few nights ago. He said intemperance was a great evil, and every Christian man and woman ought to face this evil. The best method of work was root work. Let the axe be laid to the root of the tree. He made five charges against the evil, which he successfully sustained. 1st. It produces poverty. 2. Insanity. 3. Destroys the happiness of home. 4. Destroys health. 5. It shuts the gate of heaven. The lecture was appreciated. The evil certainly is a terrible one and should be faced, met and overcome. There is too much flirting with the devil on this subject, and not enough direct work for a mighty principle.

A Visit Much Enjoyed.—After the lecture I came home and found it in possession of the church. One of the brethren claimed my attention, and when I reached the house after some delay, I hardly knew it. Brethren, Methodists, Mennonites, and Presbyterians, all formed a happy band, typical, I trust, of the day when we shall all be one family. Myself, wife, and children were all remembered in a manner highly appreciated. Such visits are encouraging. They are manifestations of kindness and are helpful in their tendency. The minds of preacher and people are lifted out of the ruts, and we are bound closer, and our friendship in Christ more closely united. Since our last report we have had another conversion. The good work goes on and we are praying for more. Help us with your prayers.

"Kindness soothes the bitter anguish,
Kindness wipes the falling tear,
Kindness cheers us when we languish,
Kindness makes a friend more dear."

Another Good Day for the Lord.—Sunday, the 23rd was a day of work and praise. In the morning a young follower of Christ made a confession. At night we had three confessions. You see our work is continued throughout the year. We have had no special service, that is, protracted service, but we all feel that we have a work to do, *and that work is done with an eye to present results. Now is the time,* and we have the good work always warm; every Sunday the invitation is extended. To God be all the glory. We depend on him and realize that without him we can do nothing. One may plant, another may water, but God only can give the increase. May we plant and water, and may the increase be great all over our field of work. May we forget self and think more of Christ.

College of St. James, Md.

Bro. McFaden has asked me to give my reasons for not keeping the Seventh Day. As soon as I get a little time to write I will gladly do so. I am overwhelmed with work at present. If you, Bro. McFaden, will come and preach a week or two for me, I will prepare an article upon the subject at once. You ought to have an easy time now and get off whenever you desire. You have two preachers to fill your pulpit. Our brethren say you promised to come back. I think you ought to come. I wish you would come. What say you?

ISAAC D. BOWMAN.